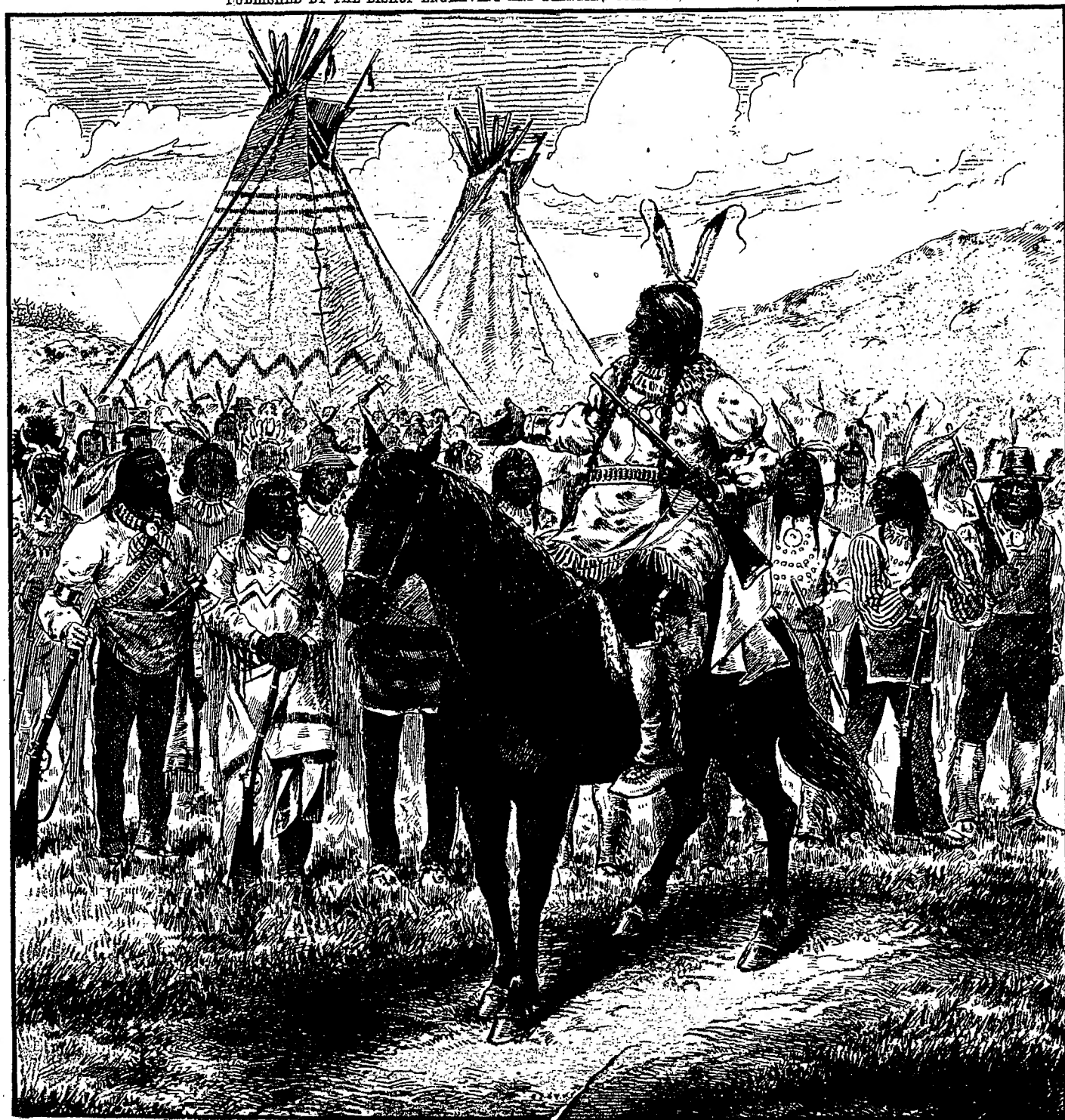




# WINNIPEG SKETCHES



PUBLISHED BY THE BISHOP ENGRAVING AND PRINTING COMPANY, WINNIPEG, MAY, 1885.



POINTMAKER

USING HIS BRAVES.

# WINNIPEG WAR SKETCHES.

## WINNIPEG WAR SKETCHES

A 12 PAGE ILLUSTRATED PAPER

PUBLISHED BY REQUEST

BY THE

BISHOP ENG. AND PRINT. CO'Y.

(LIMITED)

WINNIPEG.



OTTER'S FIGHT WITH POUNDMAKER AT CUT-KNIFE CREEK,

SATURDAY, 2ND MAY, 1885.

BATTLEFORD, May 5.—Col. Otter, with 320 troops, started to Poundmaker's reserve Friday afternoon. He drove all night, and at 5.15 on Saturday morning began a seven hour engagement with the Indians. Eight of our men were killed, and thirteen wounded. The attack was begun by the Indians suddenly, and it looked as if a trap had been set for us, into which we ran. The enemy was very strong, their numbers being estimated at six hundred, and they fought fiercely from cover, while we were comparatively open to their fire. They were fighting from the brow of a hill over a coulee. Five minutes after the first shot was fired we appeared to be completely surrounded. Fifty men were sent back to clear the rear. We had just passed through a deep gully thickly wooded, and a swift stream running on one side. The men sent back

MADE A DASH

and accomplished their object, thus lessening the danger of the situation. The fighting, which was all skirmishing, was over a large and uneven stretch of country, and our men were working at great disadvantage, but they stuck to it like heroes, and with bullets whistling in on them from almost every direction never flinched for an instant. Every corps continued steadily on the aggressive, and by 10 o'clock the enemy was almost silenced. They resumed again shortly, and the fighting was again heavy. The artillery, with two seven-pounders and the Gatling gun, did good work repeatedly by forcing the enemy from their cover, and at 11 o'clock the enemy was again almost completely silenced. Col. Otter had already given orders to withdraw from a position of such disadvantage. The Indians, observing this, endeavored to cut off the retreat of the men. Our troops

FOUGHT THEIR WAY OUT

inch by inch, the front always to the enemy. No praise is sufficient to describe the bravery of our officers and men. Every one showed himself a hero. Col. Otter, with his staff, was in every part of the field, and his orders were cool and decided as in a sham battle. The men were badly used up before the withdrawal began.

OUR FORCE

was comprised of seventy-five mounted police and scouts, "B" Battery, Ottawa Guards, "C" Company, Infantry School, the Queen's Own Rifles, and Battleford Rifles. It is thought from thirty to sixty of the enemy were killed. The column returned to Battleford the same night. The wounded are all doing well.

Following is the revised list of killed and wounded:

KILLED.

BATTLEFORD RIFLES.

PRIVATE ARTHUR DODDS.

GOVERNOR'S FOOT GUARDS.

PRIVATE JOHN ROGERS.

PRIVATE OSGOOD.

INFANTRY SCHOOL CORPS.

BUGLER FAWKES.

NORTH-WEST MOUNTED POLICE.

CORPORAL LOWEY.

CORPORAL R. B. SLEIGH.

TRUMPETER JACK BURKE.

TEAMSTER WINNIE, Regina.

WOUNDED.

BATTLEFORD RIFLES.

BUGLER GILBERT, shot in the neck.

B BATTERY.

LIFUT. PELLETIER, thigh.

SERGEANT GAFFNEY, arm.

CORPORAL MORTON, groin.

PRIVATE REYNOLDS, arm.

GOVERNOR-GENERAL'S FOOT GUARDS.

SERGEANT WINTERS, in the face.

PRIVATE M'QUILKINS, in the left side.

INFANTRY SCHOOL CORPS.

SERGEANT-MAJOR SPACKEN, flesh wound in the arm.

NORTH-WEST MOUNTED POLICE.

SERGEANT WARD, in the shoulder.

QUEEN'S OWN.

COLOR-SERGEANT COOPER, in the hip.

PRIVATE LLOYD, in the shoulder.

C. VARY, in the shoulder.

GEORGE WATTS, in the thigh.

THE OBJECT OF THE FIGHT.

Colonel Otter's object in setting out with a flying column was simply to strike Poundmaker a blow, and then to return. This was done with some success. Fifty tipis were destroyed by our shell and the woods and prairie having been fired as we moved off, Poundmaker's camp was literally burnt. We learned on Sunday that he had moved on a short distance further west and that he now occupies a very strong position in a knot of bluffs covered with scrub. On the north end of the reserve there was a lot of houses. These were either destroyed or badly shattered. At Eye Hill Creek, at the south of the reserve, Poundmaker had placed ten mounted Indians, who were evidently looking out for a force coming in that way, as they took no part in the fight, but kept galloping up and down in an excited manner. No squaws or papooses were killed so far as we know. The Indians had three or four hundred head of cattle and a large number of horses. Some of these were killed by our artillery fire. Large herds of cattle lay in the ravines south. All these had no doubt been stolen from settlers. According to all accounts, the Indians have swept all that part of the country clean, plundering it, and then firing the empty homesteads. There are some half-breeds among the Indians. One of them, wearing a gray slouch hat, appeared to be directing on our left. Many of the Queen's Own had close calls, the buckshot at times flying like hail, but fortunately it was nearly always short. The Indians had a much larger force than we supposed them to have when we started.

FORT PITT.

EVACUATED, APRIL 15TH, 1885.

Inspector Dickens, who is a son of the great novelist, was in command at Fort Pitt. He succeeded in escaping with the mounted policemen down the river to Battleford, and related the exciting events that occurred prior to the evacuation of the old wooden fortress. On Wednesday, April 15th, Big Bear and his followers arrived from Frog Lake and pitched their tipis in the vicinity of the fort. A council was held at which its capture was discussed, when a division arose as to whether or not it should be attempted. While these proceedings were going on, the war party fired upon the two policemen, Loasby and Cowan, and the half-breed Quinn, who were returning from a scouting expedition. The garrison rallied to the rescue of their comrades and poured in volley after volley into the Indians, killing four and wounding twenty or thirty. Cowan was shot down, and under the very eyes of his comrades was stripped and mutilated. The fate of Quinn, whose horse shied and made off in an opposite direction, is unknown.

Meantime Mr. McLean, factor of the Hudson Bay Company, went to the camp to have a talk with the chiefs, who expressed their friendliness to the officials of the Hudson Bay Company. The Indians avowed their hostility to the mounted police, and declared that they were going

TO EXTERMINATE EVERY WHITE MAN

but the employees of the Hudson Bay Company. Mr. McLean was not allowed to return, but was assured that he would be well treated. His life, however, would be forfeited if his people would not immediately join him. Under such circumstances, Mr. McLean had no other alternative than to submit. A letter, setting forth the situation, was addressed to his employees in the fort. The Company's people and civilians at once surrendered. A demand was then made for the police to give up their arms and be dealt with as

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# WINNIPEG WAR SKETCHES.

Big Bear might see fit. Such a cowardly and treacherous overture was scornfully rejected by Inspector Dickens, who told the messenger that he would hold the fort until the last man was killed. Fearing that the stronghold could not be taken without great loss of life, the Indians agreed to allow the brave garrison to depart. Left thus to themselves, and momentarily expecting an attack, they hastily placed ammunition and provisions in a scow and started down the Rapid river. The craft was water logged, twenty-one being constantly engaged bailing out the water, while two pulled at the oars. Looshy, the wounded youth, bore up well. The sufferings of the entire party until Battleford was reached were of a terrible character. The nights were invariably cold, the entire party having in their possession only three blankets.

## INSPECTOR DICKEN'S DETACHMENT.

The following composed the detachment which evacuated Fort Pitt:

Inspector F. J. Dickens.  
Staff Sergeant J. W. Rolph, M.D.  
Sergeant Jno. Martin.  
Corporal R. B. Sleigh, x.

## CONSTABLES:

W. Anderson.	H. Ayre.
J. W. Carroll. x	H. A. Emonds.
R. Hobbs.	R. Ince.
F. Leduc. x	G. Leonais.
C. Loasby x (wounded).	J. A. MacDonald. x
L. O. Keefe. x	C. Phillips. x
J. Quigley. x	F. C. Roby. x
G. W. Rowley. x	B. H. Robertson. x
R. Rutledge. x	W. W. Smith.
J. Tector.	F. F. Warren.

Those marked thus (x) were stationed at Frog Lake and succeeded in joining their comrades at Fort Pitt. The prisoners in the hands of Big Bear number about forty (40) and included Rev. Charles Quinney and wife, and Instructor Mann, wife and family.

## AN INDIAN'S GRATITUDE.

Although the whites in this section profess a deadly hatred towards the Indians, one man at least claims that some of them possess gratitude. Before the Mounted Police evacuated Fort Pitt, Big Bear sent a letter to Sergeant Martin, a copy of which is as follows:—

Fort Pitt,  
April 1, 1885.

Sergeant Martin, N. W. M. P.:

MY DEAR FRIEND,—Since I have met you long ago we have always been good friends, and you have from time to time given me things. That is the reason why that I want to speak kindly to you, so please try to get off from Fort Pitt as soon as you can, and tell your captain that I remember him well. For since the Canadian Government have had me to starve in this country, he sometimes gives me food. I do not forget the last time I visited Pitt, he gave me a good blanket; that is the reason that I want you all out without any bloodshed; we had a talk, I and my men before we left camp, and we thought the way we are doing now the best. That is to let you off. If you would go, so try and get away before the afternoon, as the young men are all wild and hard to keep in hand.

(Signed) - BIG BEAR.

P.S.—You asked me to keep the men in camp last night and I did so, so I want you to get off to-day.

BIG BEAR.

The document in question was written by a white prisoner at the dictation of the old Chief.

## BIG BEAR'S PRISONERS.

The following is the list of the persons held prisoners by Big Bear near Fort Pitt:—

Mr. McLean, Factor Hudson Bay Co.  
Mrs. McLean.  
Miss McLean.  
Miss Margaret McLean and Miss McLean.  
Master Papoman McLean.  
Master Willie McLean.  
Master Angus McLean.  
Master Duncan McLean.  
Master J. Rose McLean and infant.  
Mr. Stanley Simpson, Hudson Bay clerk.  
Mr. Hudson, H. B. cook.  
Henry Dufresne, H. B. Co. servant.  
Rabisco Smith, H. B. servant, and family of 6.  
Mr. Mann, instructor, Onion Lake, and family of 5.  
Rev. Mr. and Mrs. Quinney, Episcopal Missionary, Onion Lake.  
Na-co-tan and family, 3 friendly Indians.  
Three Squaws, friendly.  
Malcolm McDonald, H. B. C. servant.  
Penderun and family of 6.  
Prisoners taken at Frog Lake:—  
Mr. John Delaney, Ottawa, instructor's wife.  
Peter St. Luke, family of 5.



LOUIS RIEL.

Mrs. Gowanlock.  
Mr. James Simpson and family of 3, H. B. agent.  
Mr. Cameron, H. B. clerk.  
Otto Dufresne, cook, Indian Department, originally from Montreal, 57 years in employ of H. B. Co.  
Pierre, a French Canadian.

## DOUBTFUL FATE.

Pritchard, native interpreter, Indian Department and family  
Louis Gouley, half-breed.  
Nolan, Manitoban half-breed.  
Andre Naud, Manitoban half-breed, Cold Lake.  
Halpin, H. B. agent Long Lake.  
J. Fitzpatrick, Indian agent.  
John Pritchard, Jr., interpreter.

## KILLED AT FORT PITT.

John C. Gowanlock, Mill Owner.  
John Delaney, Farm Instructor.  
William C. Gilchrist, Surveyor.  
Rev. Father Favard.  
Rev. Father Marchand.  
George Dill, Trader.  
John Williscraft, Engineer.  
Charles Gouin, Carpenter.

## LIEUTENANT SWINFORD.

Lieutenant Charles Swinford was born in Greenwich, England, and was about 34 years old. He left England with his father, who is now in the city, and in the employ of the Hudson's Bay Company, and came to Canada in 1857. Then he was a mere boy. His parents settling in Guelph, Ont., there Charles was educated, and started out in life. For nearly twenty years he lived in Guelph, and for a long time was book-keeper for the house of John A. Woods there. He came to Winnipeg about 1876, or nearly nine years ago, and first occupied a position under his brother Herbert (now Capt. Swinford) in the Red River Transportation Company's offices. He remained in the employ of this company until the year 1877. At that time the Pembina branch of the Canadian Pacific Railway was opened to the city, and he was appointed agent of the road at this point. He occupied this position until the year 1881, when the big real estate boom commenced, and then left to enter the employ of the real estate firm of Guilmette & Young as book keeper and accountant. Afterwards he became a member of the firm of McDonald McVicar & Co., and when the firm dissolved he was appointed assistant agent of the Freehold Loan and Savings Company, under Mr. McVicar, the agent in Winnipeg. This position he occupied up to the time of his death. He was quiet and unassuming, and by his courteous treatment of all whom he came in contact with made many fast friends, and to them his death will be a source of great sorrow.

## PRIVATE FERGUSON.

Private A. M. Ferguson eldest son of Dr. R. B. Ferguson was in his 19th year and enlisted in the 90th Batt. Winnipeg Rifles after the outbreak took place. He was attending Manitoba College as a medical student and was universally liked by all who knew him.

## PRIVATE ROGERS.

Private John Rogers of the Ottawa Sharpshooters, and late of the Interior Dept., Ottawa, was killed in Otter's fight with Poundmaker, May, 1885.

## COLONEL KENNEDY.

A VICTIM OF THAT TERRIBLE DISEASE, SMALL-POX—THE SAD END OF AN ACTIVE AND USEFUL CAREER.

The following despatch received yesterday afternoon conveyed the sad intelligence of the death of Col. Kennedy, of this city:

OTTAWA, May 3.

"T. R. BURPE, Winnipeg.

"A cable has just been received by His Excellency as follows:

LONDON, May 3.—It is with extreme regret I have to report the death of Col. Kennedy this morning of small pox. Will you convey to his family the expressions of my deepest sympathy at the loss of this gallant officer.

(Signed) SECRETARY OF WAR.

"His Excellency is telegraphing the sad news to his family. Please send at once their address so that they can be communicated with. Wait telegram from His Excellency."

The news spread rapidly and expressions of deepest sorrow were heard on all sides. No man was ever more universally esteemed in the city than the deceased. The sad circumstances attending his death make it particularly painful. After a period of useful service in the Sudan he was returning home when he was taken ill.

The deceased was born at Newcastle, Ontario, in 1837. At an early age he started in life as a contractor, but subsequently abandoned that occupation to study law, remaining in the office of D. W. Dumble, barrister, for about two years. In 1870 he joined the first Red River expedition under Wolseley. Previous to this he held the rank of Captain and Adjutant of the 57th Battalion, of Peterboro. After the expedition was disbanded he was appointed Registrar of the County of Selkirk, and after the incorporation of the city he became Registrar of Winnipeg. He was a member of the North west Territorial Council during its existence. He was Mayor of the city for two years—1875 and 1876. He has always taken a very active part in military matters and was appointed in command of the 90th Battalion on its formation nearly two years ago. He was also a prominent Mason and one of the most active members of Grace church. He was a member of the Board of Education and in fact was associated with almost every organization in the city. He organized the Manitoba contingent of the Canadian voyageurs, and accompanied them to Egypt last fall as paymaster. The term of service for which they were engaged having expired they were on their way home when the Colonel was taken ill with smallpox and sent to London, where he succumbed to the dread disease.

The deceased leaves a wife and five children, four boys and one girl, to mourn his loss. John C. N. Kennedy, the eldest son, is attending the military college at Kingston, being in his third year. Charles and Frederick are with the 90th Battalion Band now at the front. Owing to the wires being down between Humboldt and Clarke's Crossing they have not yet learned of their father's death, although a message was sent to them by Capt. Kennedy yesterday afternoon.

## COL. KENNEDY'S FUNERAL.

LONDON, May 6.—Col. Kennedy, of the Canadian voyageurs, who died here, was buried to day in High Gate Cemetery.

Rev. Mr. Greaves, president of the Wesleyan Conference, performed the funeral rites.

The body was carried to the grave by eight voyageurs, the remainder of the contingent following the coffin. Three volleys of musketry were fired over the grave. The funeral was attended by special representatives of the Prince of Wales, the Duke of Cambridge and General Wolseley.

LONDON, May 6.—The funeral of Colonel Kennedy was very imposing.

The firing of volleys over the grave was done by three hundred men from the Essex Regiment.

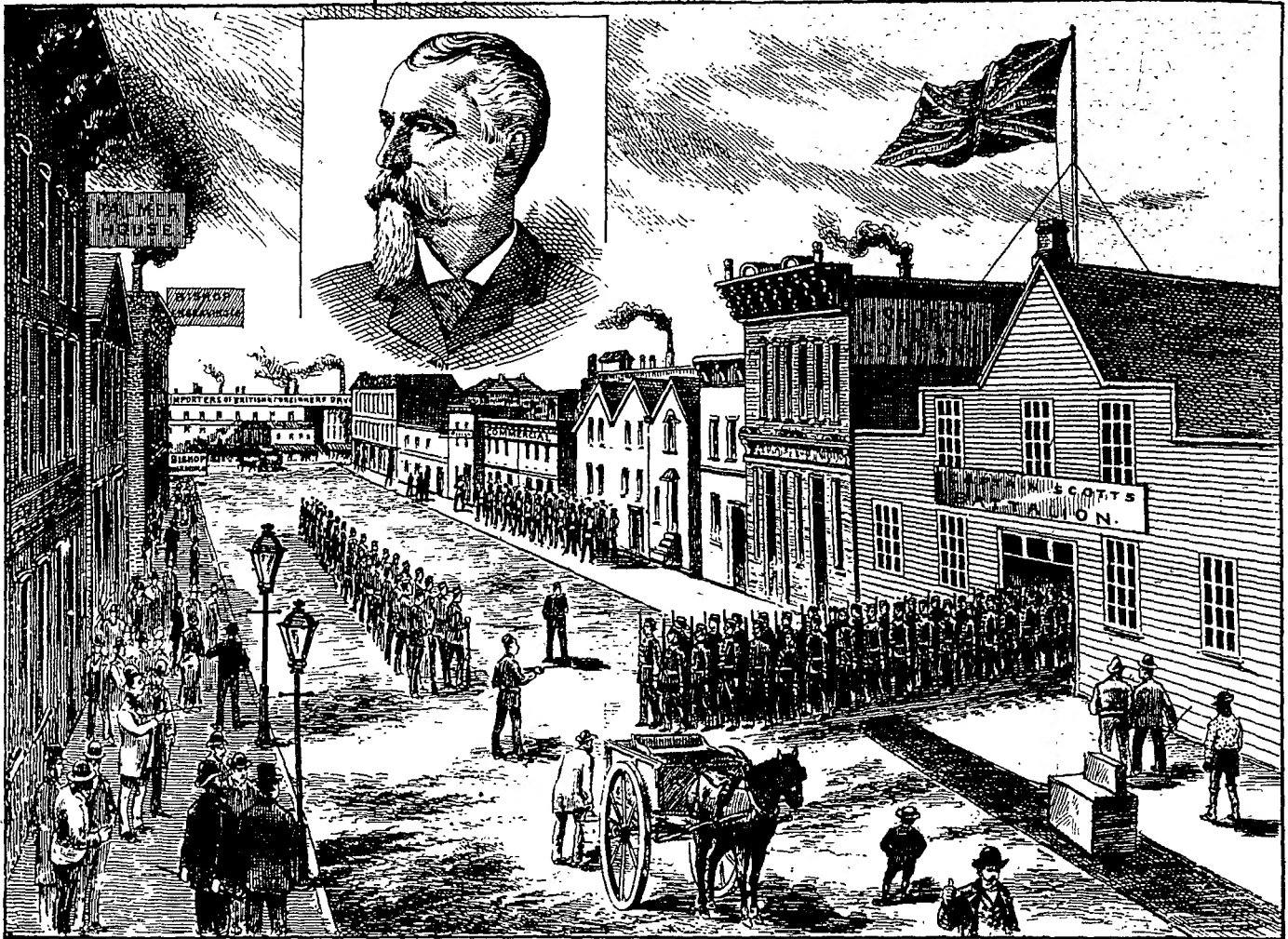
The Duke of Cambridge sent a wreath to be placed on the bier.

Lord Wolseley telegraphed a special message of condolence.

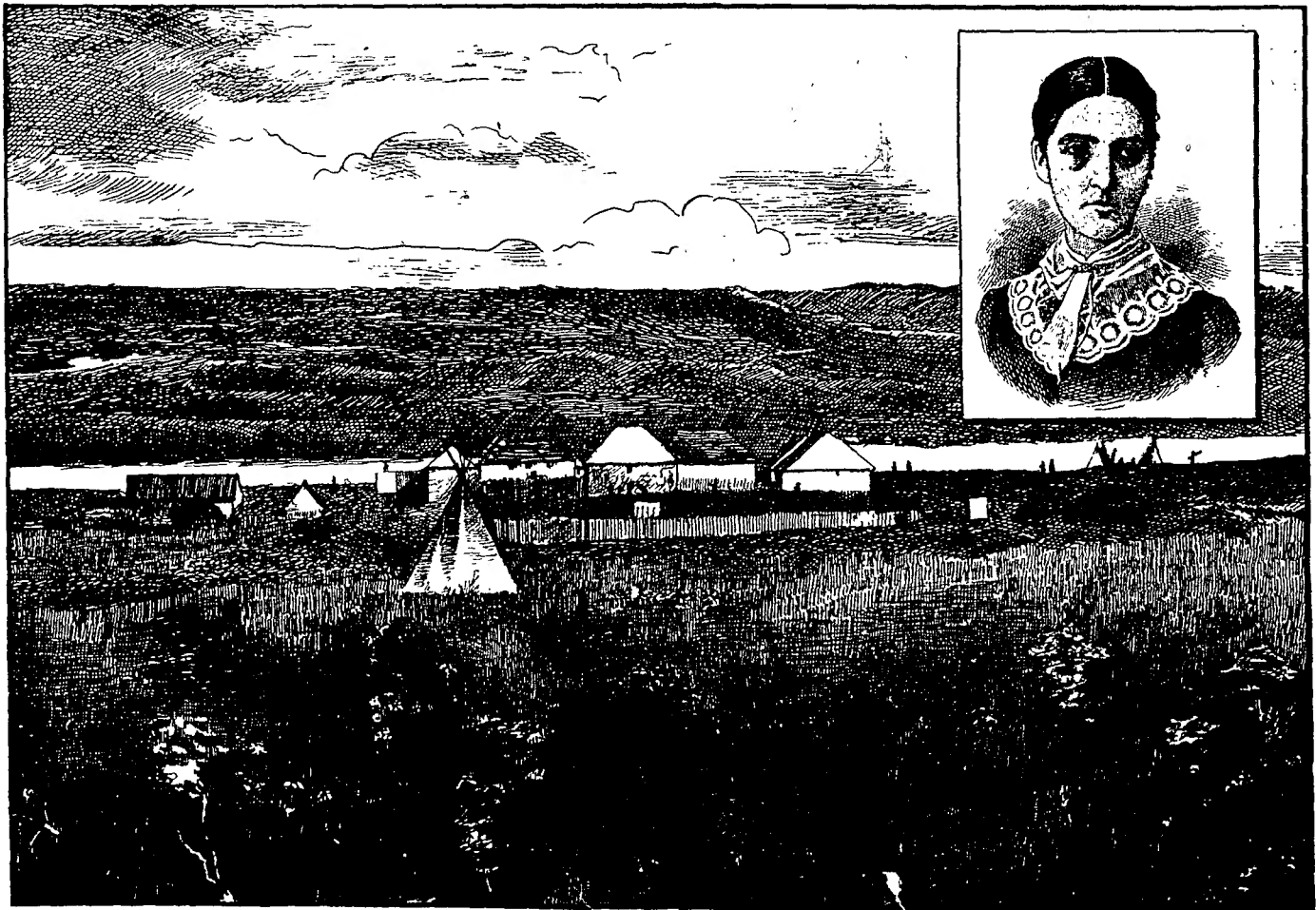
## THE SOLDIER'S FUNERAL.

At noon May 6th the casket containing the remains of the late Private Ferguson was taken from his father's residence to the Congregational Church, where it was placed alongside that of Lieutenant Swinford, which had been taken directly there from the railway station the evening before. The lids of the caskets were covered with flowers, each having a wreath contributed by the members of the 35th Battalion, also one of prairie flowers prepared by the comrades of the deceased in the 90th. A beautiful one in memory of the lamented Ferguson bore the words "From Mother," and there were other floral offerings from various friends. At 2.30 p.m. the funeral service was held, after which the remains were taken to St. John's Cathedral Cemetery, and there interred.

# WINNIPEG WAR SKETCHES.



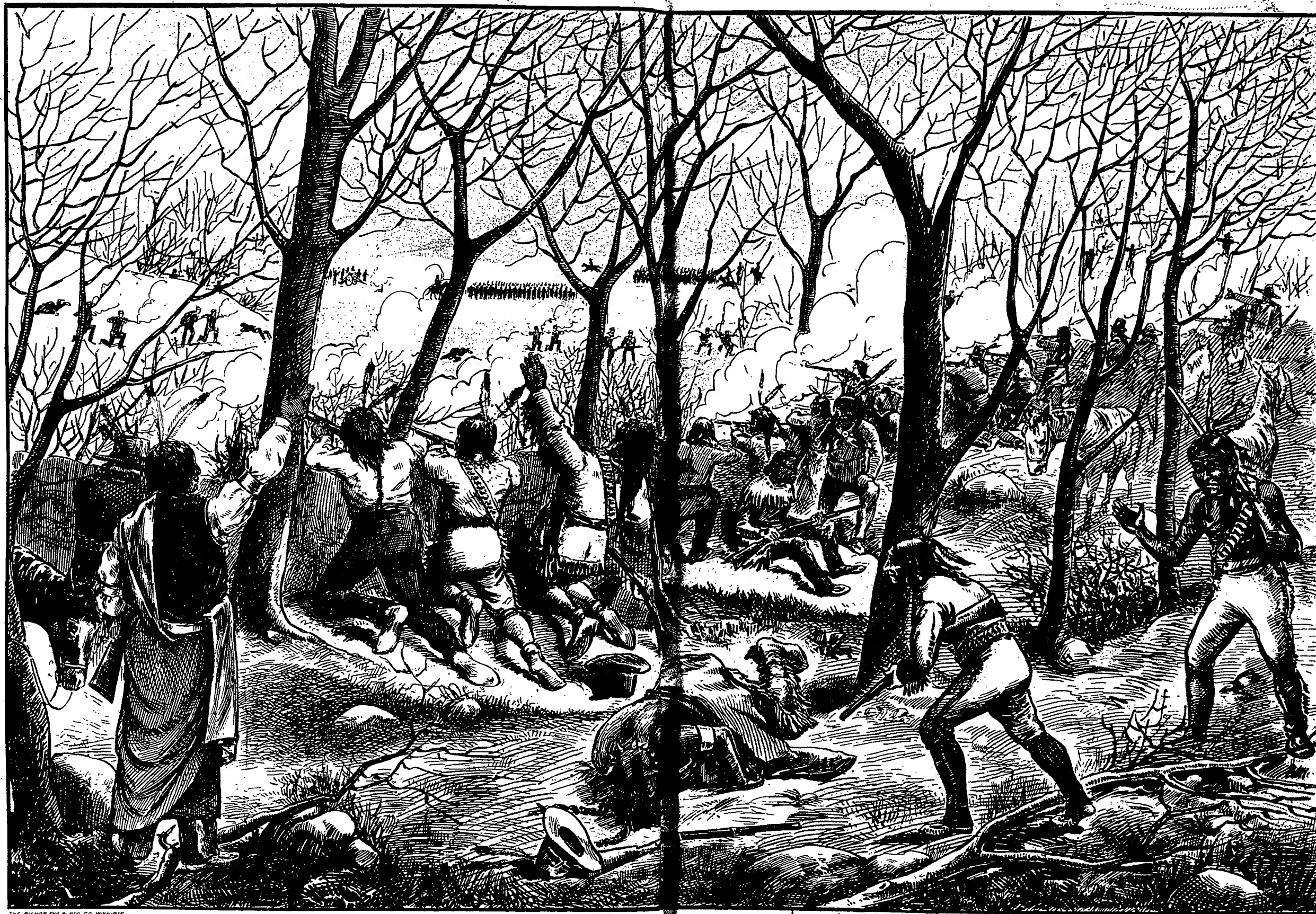
LIEUT.-COL. SCOTT'S BATTALION, WINNIPEG, PREPARING TO LEAVE FOR THE FRONT.



VIEW OF FORT PITT WITH PORTRAIT OF MRS. GOWANLOCK CAPTURED BY INDIANS.



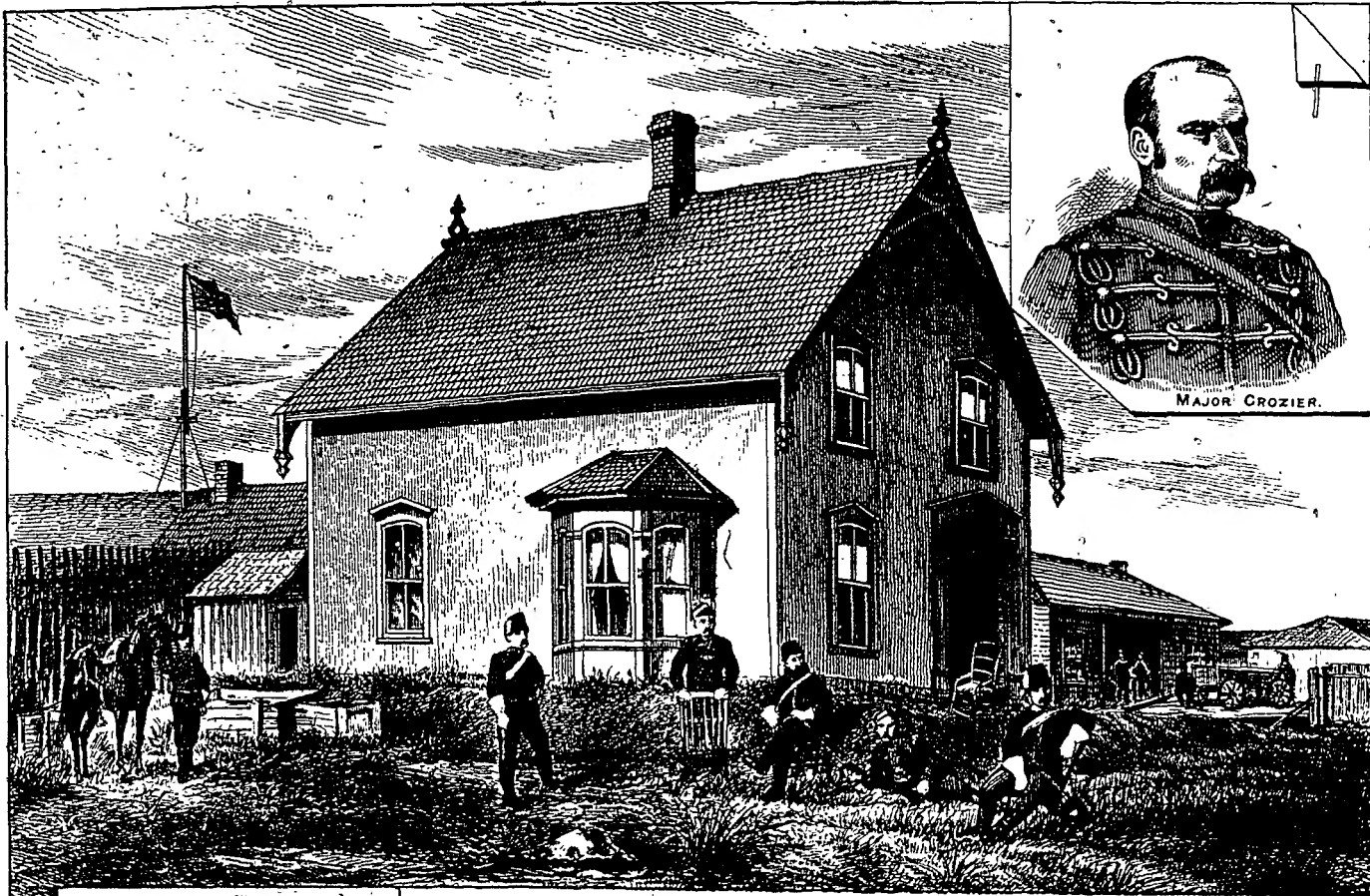




FIGHT AT CUT-KNIFE CREEK BETWEEN COL. OTTER AND CHIEF POUNDMAKER,  
SATURDAY, MAY 2nd, 1885.





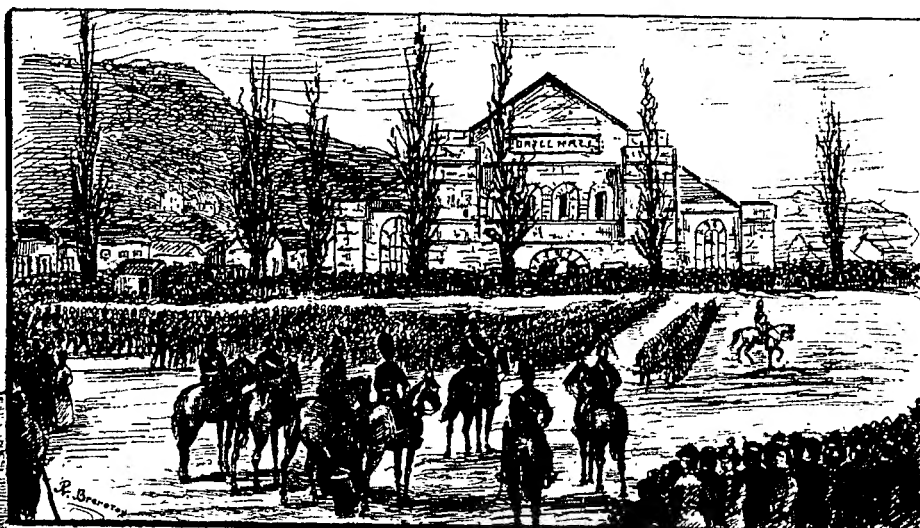


MAJOR GROZIER.

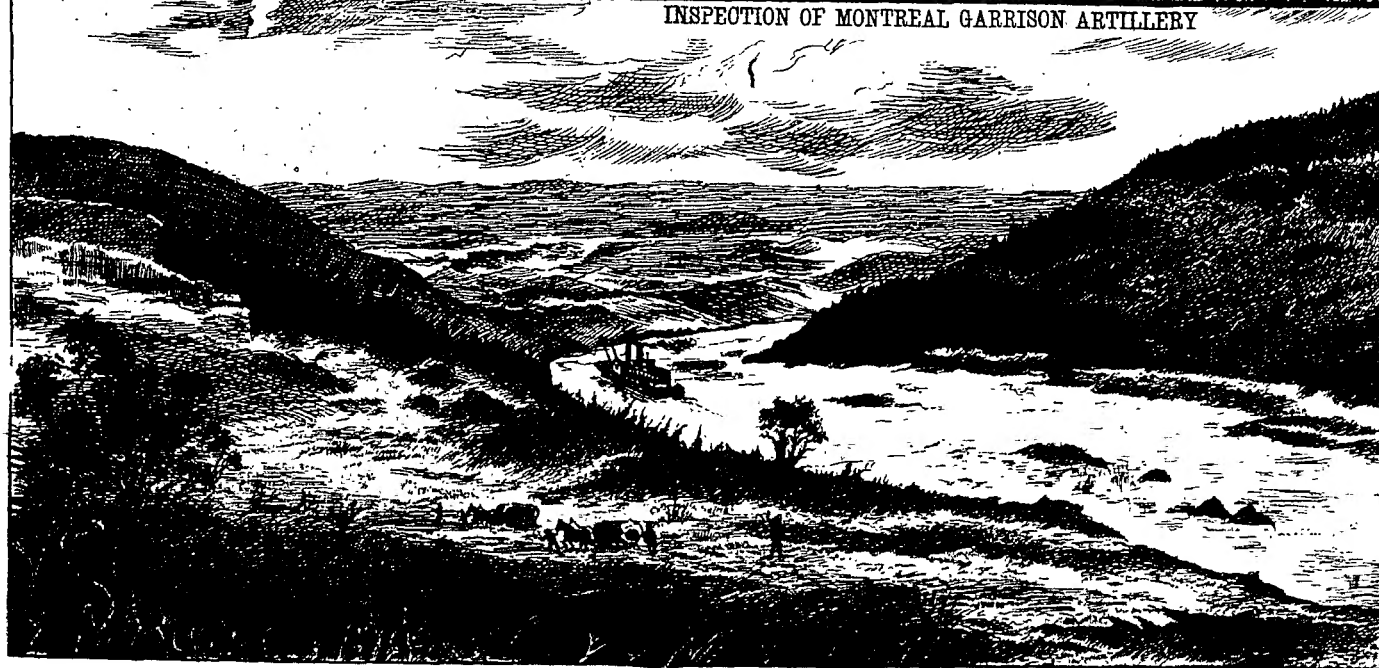
OFFICERS' QUARTERS AT BATTLEFORD.



LIEUT.-COL. W. R. OSWALD,  
COMMANDING THE MONTREAL GARRISON ARTILLERY.



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GENERAL MIDDLETON.

### THE BATOCHE FIGHT.

#### THE ADVANCE.

BATOCHE, May 9, 1870. CLARKE'S CROSSING, May 10.—General Middleton's whole force left the camp at Gabriel's Crossing on Friday morning. The men were in good condition, and both anxious and eager for the fray. We proceeded four miles west and ten miles north by the open prairie, camping last night behind Batoche, on the Humboldt trail. No sign of the enemy was visible on the line of march, nor were any rebels seen by our scouts before camp was pitched for the night. At an early hour this morning the camp was astir, and all preparations were completed for an advance on the rebel position. Everything being in readiness, we started for Batoche at six o'clock, and after an uneventful march, arrived there about nine.

Our force consisted of 913 men, with four cannon and a Gatling.

Each battery had two nine-pounders, and "A" Battery, in addition, a Gatling gun, which was taken into action by Captain Howard, United States army, and Lieutenant Rivers. As the column approached Batoche's Captain Freer, A.D.C., galloped up and asked to have the guns sent forward at once. The order was promptly obeyed, and we went forward with the guns at a gallop.

No 2 gun of "A" Battery was immediately prepared for action, and fired on the house, successfully shelling it. We then advanced, a Gatling gun being ordered to proceed with the mounted scouts. At this juncture some persons were seen to emerge from a house next to a church, and the Gatling was turned on the building. After firing a few rounds a man in the garb of a priest appeared at the door of the house which was being attacked, bearing a white handkerchief. The General and his staff advanced and asked the priest to come forward. After a short time, during which the door was shut, the priest, accompanied by three others and five Sisters of the Faith and Compassion of Jesus, advanced, and explained that they had gathered here from all parts of the country to obtain the rebels' protection from the Indians, who were committing depredations and threatening the whites in all directions. While this conference was proceeding, Boulton's scouts, on the right, engaged a score or so of Indians, who retired to shelter in a ravine.

About three miles from Batoche we had heard the whistle of the steamer "Northcote," the signal agreed upon when they should arrive at Batoche. The steamer, which was manned by "C" Company of Infantry of Toronto, passed Batoche, the priests informed us, about half-past eight in the morning, and was attacked from both sides of the river when she had proceeded four miles past that point, a running fight being maintained all the way down. The priests explained to the General the lay of the land, and we proceeded at once to the height of land on the left of the parsonage, from whence we could see the village of Batoche. The guns of "A" Battery had meanwhile been busy shelling the houses on both sides of the river, a number of rebels being seen retreating from them as soon as the firing commenced. From the position we now occupied, it was seen that opposite the village proper a large camp of tents and Indian tepees, some of them grandly painted, was established, and some shells were thrown from our guns into its midst. When about to limber up the guns a couple of shots were fired from brush down

the slope, and a strong fusillade began on both sides of us. The Gatling was immediately brought into action on the place vacated by the Battery guns, and a couple of hundred shots were poured into the brush in almost as many seconds. The rebels did not seem to relish the warmth of our attack for many of them were seen in the distance breaking cover, and taking to the bush on the banks of the river.

This all occurred on our extreme left, on the height of land overlooking the steep wooded river banks, and as the rebels were seen advancing along the banks, it was feared an attempt would be made to attack our flank. The Garrison detachment of "A" Battery was immediately extended on the brink of the hill, from the advance line towards the rear. The Gatling gun was also turned to check the rebel advance and many shots were dropped to the rear. While the Gatling was engaged in this work, Driver Charpentier of "A" Battery, was shot in the leg. On reaching a point directly opposite our flank, the rebels took shelter in the heavy brush, and opened a heavy fire, out of reach of the Gatling, which was returned to its former position. The Battery guns then advanced to shell the village. "A" and "B" companies of the Royal Grenadiers, who formed the advance guard, extended, and advanced through the bluffs until the guns were reached, when they halted in line with the guns. The 90th, which formed the support, also extended, while the Midland Battalion and the Winnipeg Field Battery acted as a reserve force.

#### THE BATTLE OVER.

Firing completely died out by six o'clock, and the forces immediately set to work to clear a place for a camp, and put up barricades.

The killed and wounded are as follows:

#### KILLED.

Gunner Wm. Phillips, "A" Battery.

#### WOUNDED.

Gunner T. J. Stout, "A" Battery, ribs smashed by the wheel of a gun carriage.

Driver Nap. Charpentier, "A" Battery, shot in the leg.

Gunner Twohey, "A" Battery, shot in the leg.

Capt. Mason, Grenadiers, flesh wound in the side.

Gunner Fairbanks, "A" Battery, shot in the thigh.

Cook, French's Scouts, shot in the leg.

Curley Allen, of the same corps, shot in the arm.

The troops stood to arms sharp at four o'clock (Sunday) morning. There was a film of ice on the water pails and the men were weary, stiff and sore from fatigue, want of sleep and rheumatism. The rebels had been moving about all night, and the moment we began to stir their advance fired a few shots and gave a loud cheer, apparently by way of a challenge. The troops were quite cool and collected, though the prospect of another prolonged conflict with this wily enemy was by no means a cheering one. Gen. Middleton had let it be understood, however, that most of the work would be left to the artillery, and at the parade the officers cautioned the men against exposing themselves. A hurried breakfast was made of hard tack, bacon and tea, and then a brief delay occurred, the General waiting to hear from the scouts who had gone forward to the outskirts of the bush.

Our artillery moved forward at 5.20, and opened fire on the ravines where the fighting was done yesterday. Two guns were directed against the houses in the basin-shaped depression along the river. A few rebels lay behind three log shanties just below the river bank, and the artillery soon drove them out. The enemy did not attempt to answer our artillery fire except at times between shots when they let fly at the artillerymen who were pretty well covered, however, by skirmishers. At 8 a.m. skirmishers from the Royal Grenadiers and the 90th were sent a little ahead towards the groves of spruce and poplar, north of our position. Captain Howard with the Gatling accompanied them and kept up a rattling fusillade for half an hour. The rebels did not fire back but lay low in their rifle pits. Occasionally two or three of them would jump up and fire and then run, apparently with the view of drawing our men after them; but strict orders had been issued against following them. This lasted a long while, no damage being done on either side. We could not, for prudential reasons attempt to charge the pits, and for similar reasons, the rebels refrained from running up against our big guns and Gatling.

The fighting during the rest of the day does not admit of detailed description. Our artillery would blaze away for an hour, and then the skirmishers would advance only to fall back as the rebels, who kept well under cover while shells were flying, suddenly rose in rows in their pits. Neither side gained the slightest advantage. Had Col. Irvine appeared in the rebel rear we should have had them in a trap.

# WINNIPEG WAR SKETCHES.

## DOWN THE SASKATCHEWAN.

THE TRIP OF THE GUNBOAT "NORTHCOTE" WITH THE TROOPS AND SUPPLIES FOR GENERAL MIDDLETON—A HAZARDOUS UNDERTAKING.

(From the Star Special Correspondent with the Midland Battalion.)

ON BOARD THE SS. "NORTHCOTE,"  
SASKATCHEWAN RIVER, April 27.

The stern-wheel steamer "Northcote" was fitted up at Medicine Hat, on the South Saskatchewan River, and taken by her captain to the Saskatchewan Ferry Landing, about 32 miles direct north of Swift Current, there to be armed and used as a gun-boat and transport. This boat had been built at Grand Rapids, on the Upper Saskatchewan, and taken down the south branch in September, 1884, and was the first steamer to make the trip up and down that branch. On arrival at the Ferry Landing two barges were lashed to the steamer, one on each side. These latter were loaded with ammunition and supplies, room being provided in both for the men of the Midland Battalion, under Col. Williams, four companies of which were detailed to accompany the expedition. Including medical corps, crew and staff there were about 200 aboard when the boat left the Landing, the whole force being under the command of Lieut.-Colonel Straubenzie, D.A.G. The four companies were selected from the 15th, 40th, 45th and 46th

steel and gun metal, and I sighted at the side. An ammunition cart and five horses accompany the Gatling gun, four of which are used to draw the gun carriage and limber.

The banks of the South Saskatchewan are very mountainous and barren of all vegetation, and no habitations are to be seen between the Elbow and the Landing. Wood was used entirely by the steamer, a supply being cut by the soldiers at the latter place sufficient to last until more would be wanted. As the steamer slowly progressed two of the boatmen were on either side with a long pole to fathom the river, yelling out to the steerman the number of feet of water. "No bottom," sang out the starboard watch, which was followed almost immediately by the same words from his comrade on the port side, indicating that they could not find bottom with their poles. The captain ordered on "all steam," but we had not run far when the watch sang out "8 feet—6 feet—5½ feet—3 feet," in rapid succession. The engines were reversed, but too late, for the watch followed up with "3 feet—2 feet"—Bang! "There she's struck!" and we were

ON A SAND BAR,

high and dry. The derricks, capstan and spars were called into requisition, and we were lifted off the bank. Any person travelling the Mississippi or Missouri rivers will readily understand the process adopted in lifting the flat-bottomed steamers over the snags

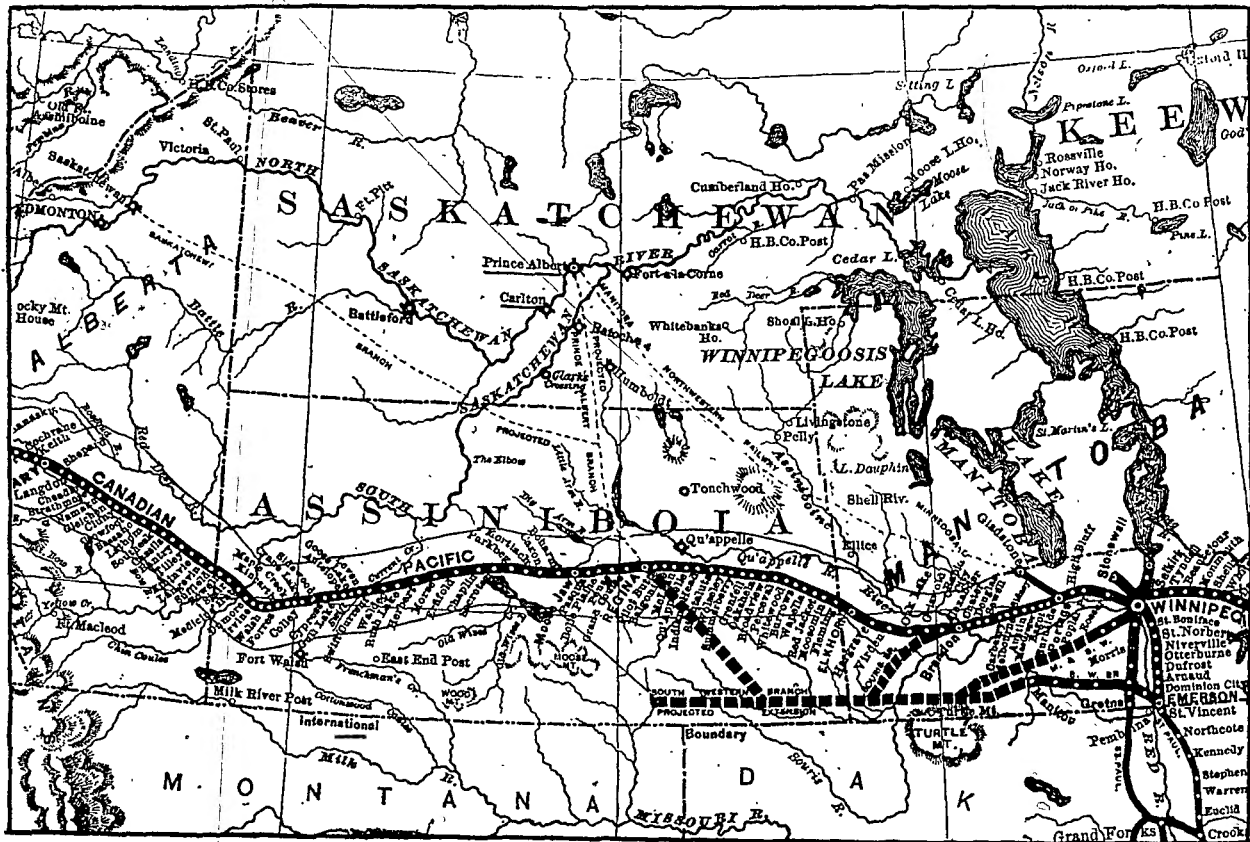
appears that the present rising in the North-West is not the second but the third agitation of which Riel is guilty.

"What do you know of Riel?"

"Well, he wintered with me once on the Missouri river, and one Summer he was near me at Wood Mountain."

"What do you think of him as a leader?"

"I do not know what to think of him. I remember that during the time I was with him at Wood Mountain he endeavored to get the Sioux, Crees and Assiniboines to join with the half-breeds, and to make him the acknowledged leader of a rebellion. He went so far in this as to get the Indians to sign an agreement written by himself, making each one's interest a common cause. I heard of this and visited the Indian camps, and saw the agreements that the Indians had signed. At that time I had charge of the Wood Mountain, and exerted a good deal of influence with the Indians. I succeeded in getting them to tear up the agreements and break up the confederation which Riel was never afterwards able to accomplish. This is an occurrence not generally known. As a leader, Riel, I have found, is not much liked, even by the half-breeds. He is an ambitious man and something of an agitator. He is extremely fond of notoriety."



MAP OF THE NORTH-WEST TERRITORY.

Regiments. The steamer left the Landing at 11.30 a.m. on Thursday, April 23rd, amid the cheers of the troops stationed at the Ferry. The steamer made very slow progress, the river being narrow and sand bars being in unknown points. The wheelmen steered by the current, which runs very swift, and the river is a series of bends. Comparatively nothing was known of what we would have to contend against, as the captain and crew had no experience and the sand banks were continually filling up and shifting

ZAREEBAS.

The infantry started to work and constructed zareebas out of bags of flour, oats and barrels of biscuits, two of which were made on each barge, and then covered with tarpaulins. The men had ammunition served out to them and slept in their zareebas. Capt. Howard of the U.S. Army, who was on the steamer in charge of the Gatling Battery, gave an exhibition trial of the Gatling, which was placed in the forepart of the upper deck of the steamer. This machine gun was made by the Colts Fire Arms Co., Hartford, Conn. and will fire as high as eight hundred rounds per minute out of its ten barrels. It is a most improved and effective gun and uses a 48 calibre cartridge about two inches in length. It is made of Bessemer

or sand-bars which impede the navigation on those rivers. Large numbers of ducks and geese were seen and some of the officers had a "top" at them at long range with Winchester rifles. The steamer was run until shortly after sunset when she was run aground for the night. Guards were placed on different points to prevent a possible night attack. During the day a little over thirty miles was made, which was considered quite satisfactory, as the steamer struck several times and lost the channel. After striking on a sand-bar all hands would be ordered off the steamer on to the barges to lighten her, thus she proceeded for twelve days, arriving at Clarke's Crossing May 4th. After landing two companies of the 40th Battalion, under the command of Capt. Bonnycastle, she proceeded down the river to co-operate with Gen. Middleton in the attack on Batoche.

## RIEL'S SECOND REBELLION.

AN INCIDENT IN THE LIFE OF THE REBEL CHIEF NOT GENERALLY KNOWN.

From the following extract from an interview between Major Walsh and a Winnipeg Sun reporter it

## THE VICTORY AT BATOCHE.

We have just received the news of Gen. Middleton's victory at Batoche, but space only permits us to give a list of the killed and wounded.

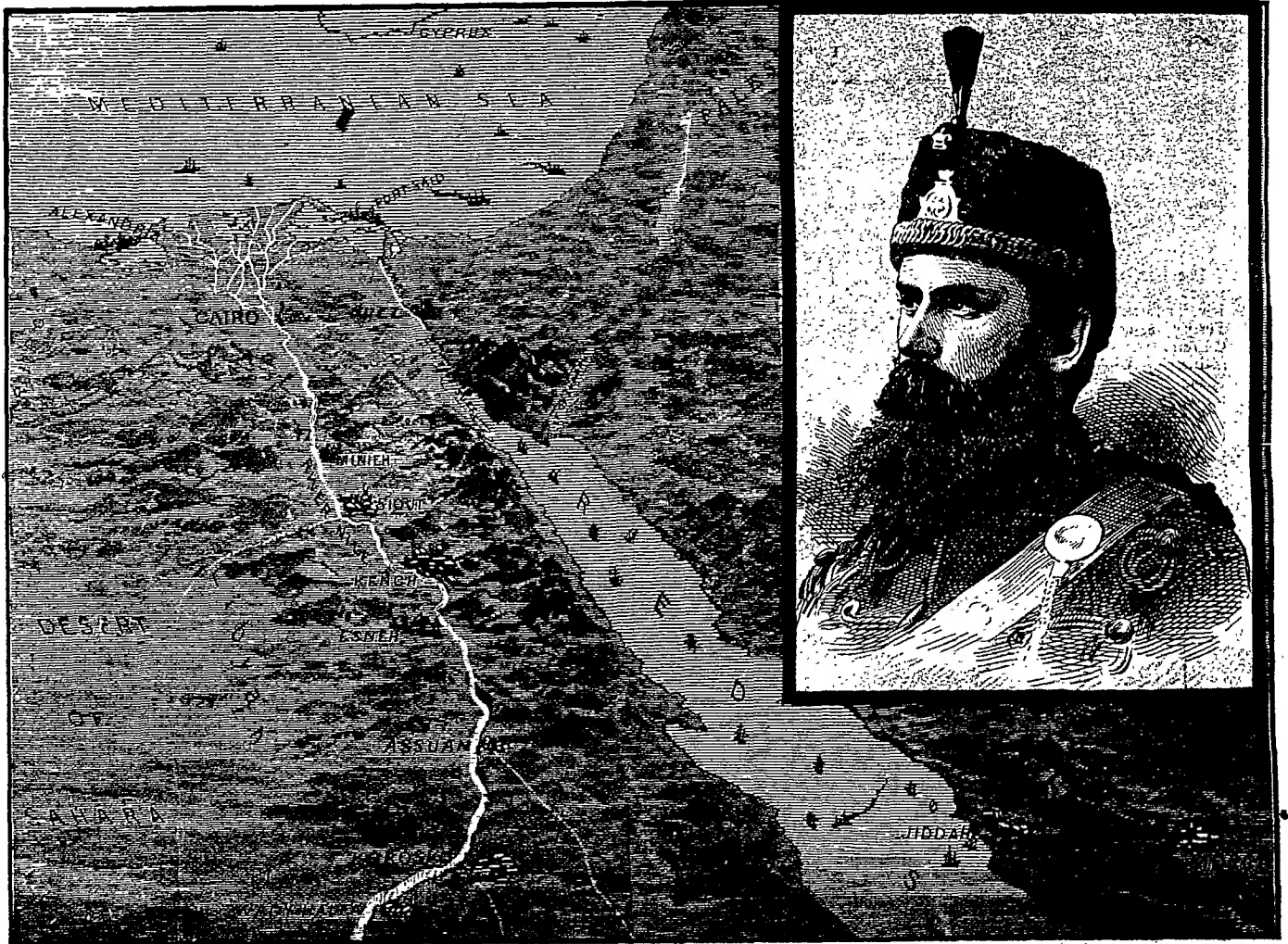
KILLED.

Capt. John French, Scout.  
Lieut. Fitch, Royal Grenadiers.  
Capt. Brown, Boulton's Troop.  
W. P. Kippen, Surveyor's Corps.  
Private Fraser, 90th Battalion.  
Private Hardisty,

WOUNDED.

Privates Gillies and Young, Sergeant-Major Watson and Sergeant Jacques, 90th Battalion.  
Lieut. Helliwell, Corporal Helliwell, Privates Quigley and Barton, of the Midland Battalion.  
Major Dawson, Lieut. Laidlaw, Privates Quigley, Cook, Gaughan, Barbour, H. Wilson and Marsh, all of the Grenadiers.

The prisoners rescued were Lash, Peter and Wm. Tomkins, McKenn, Astley, Ross and McConnell.



COL. KENNEDY,  
DIED IN LONDON, ENGLAND, ON HIS WAY HOME FROM THE NILE EXPEDITION.



REMAINS OF LIEUT. SWINFORD AND PRIVATE FERGUSON BEFORE INTERMENT AT WINNIPEG.

